

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO CINCPAC
COGARD
GOVGUAM
TREASURY

UNCLAS STATE 011395

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 18 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA/THAILAND

RTG DENIES VN CHARGE THAT RECENT VISIT BY US ADM WEISNER
WAS AIMED AT REOPENING US BASES (REUTER BANGKOK).

RIOTING BETW FACTIONS IN VIET REFUGEE CAMP IN NE THAILAND
INJURES 15 (AP, NYT). ABOUT 100 KHMER FLEE INTO THAILAND
AFTER CLASHING W/KR FORCES; THAI POLICE SEIZE RIFLES FROM
FLEEING CAMBODIANS, SAY ABOUT 2000 REBELS OPERATING IN
SEVERAL GROUPS ALONG THAI-CAMBODIAN BORDER (AP, LAT 1/15).
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2. PHILIPPINES

MIL AUTHORITIES SAY 10 PERSONS, INCL 3 AMCITS, WILL GO ON
TRIAL BEFORE MIL TRIBUNAL 2/7 ON CHARGES PLOTTING ASSASSI-
NATE MARCOS. ONLY 1 AMCIT IN MANILA; OTHERS TO BE TRIED
IN ABSENTIA. AMONG FILS ARE SERGIO OSMENA, EUGENIO LOPEZ;

ALL IN PHILS EXCEPT OSMENA (WSTAR 1/17).

MORO NLF LEADERS BROADCAST APPEALS TO FOLLOWERS TO OBSERVE
AGREED C-F (REUTER MANILA). FIL REBEL LEADER/POLICE GENL

FLY INTO MAIN REBEL AREA IN S PHILS TO HELP SECURE C-F
(REUTER MANILA).

3. AUSTRALIA

AT LEAST 29 KILLED IN SYDNEY WHEN COMMUTER TRAIN DERAILED,
CRASHED INTO BRIDGE; BRIDGE COLLAPSED ONTO TRAIN (UPI,
WP W/PIC).

QUEENSLANDER CLEM RENOUF NOMINATED TO BE PRES ROTARY INTL
78-79 (CHITRIB).

4. CHINA

SHANGHAI STUDENTS DEMAND INTERVIEW W/MUNICIPAL LEADERS
TO DISCUSS ALLEGED PERSECUTION BY PURGED MAYOR, CHANG
CHUNG-CHIAO (REUTER SHANGHAI).

VISITING DAVID ROCKEFELLER MET W/FONMIN HUANG HUA; USLO
CHIEF GATES PRESENT (UPI, LAT 1/15).

UK TURNS DOWN TAIWAN REQUEST FOR "SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER"
SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. UK/France REPORTEDLY TRYING
PERSUADE PEKING TAKE UP OPTIONS ON CONCORDE (REUTER, NYT).
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SEVEN-MEMBER US MISSION ARRIVES TAIPEI TO REVIEW NUKE
PROGRAMS, CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON COOPERATION IN PEACEFUL
USES ATOMIC ENERGY (AP TAIPEI).

5. JAPAN

BRITISH NAVY SHIP CARRYING EXHIBITION PROMOTING BRITISH
AR;S SALES ABROAD WILL BE REFUSED PERMISSION ENTER TOKYO
BAY. SPOKESMAN SAYS TOKYO GOV MINOBE FELT MAJORITY CITI-
ZENS WOULD OPPOSE VISIT, INTENDS REFUSE REQUEST (REUTER).

CANNON (WP) REPORTS FORD PLANS PARDON "TOKYO ROSE" AS ONE
OF FINAL ACTS IN HIS ADMIN. ACCORDING REUTER, WH SPOKES-
MAN HAS NO KNOWLEDGE WHETHER FORD WILL DO SO OR NOT.

CSM PRINTS 6 PP ECON SPEC ENTITLED "JAPAN: ECONOMIC POWER-
HOUSE." ARTICLES INCL JAPAN-US TRADE, PROBLEMS W/EEC, NEW
IMAGE ,JAPAN INCORPORATED," COUNTRY'S HUGE AUTO INDUSTRY,

FUKUDA'S PLANS REVITALIZE LAGGING ECONOMY.

DURING JAPAN-AUSTRALIA 2-DAY MINISTERIAL MTG MONDAY, GOJ DECIDED COMPROMISE ON BEEF IMPORTS, RAISING 6-MONTH QUOTA FROM 20,000 TO 40,000 TONS (CULLISON, JOC).

JAPAN'S FAIR TRADE COMMISSION PRESSING FUKUDA TO INTRODUCE REVISED ANTI-MONOPOLY BILL THAT INCLUDES CONTROVERSIAL PROVISION BREAKUP OVERLY-MONOPOLIZED CORPS (CULLISON).

FINANCE MINISTRY SAYS JAPAN WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN IMF GOLD AUCTION 1/26; EXPLAINED JAPAN RECEIVED ABOUT 100 TONS GOLD FROM IMF 1/10 (CULLISON).

ABOUT 100 MIL DOLS ARAB OIL MONEY PUMPED INTO TOKYO STOCK EX DURING NOV/DEC, ASSISTING IN MARKET'S PRICE INCREASE. JAPANESE SECURITIES ANALYSTS SEE INFLOW CONTINUING, BASED UNCLASSIFIED

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UPON ARAB APPRECIATION THAT COUNTRY'S ECONOMY ENTERING PERIOD FULL RECOVERY (CULLISON).

CSM TRAVEL SECTION INCLUDES 3 SEPARATE ARTICLES WHICH DESCRIBE VIRTUES OF TOKYO/KYOTO, KYUSHU, AND COMFORT/CORDIALITY OF JAPANESE INNS.

CSM CARRIES 3 ITEMS RE JAPANESE ART/ITS APPRECIATION FOR DETAIL/NATURE. INCLUDES FOTO HOKUSAI PAINTING "LIGHTNING AT THE FOOT OF THE FUJI."

6. KOREA

LAT'S JACKSON (GLOBE) REPORTS HIRC INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS THAT TACOMA SHIPBUILDING MADE 1/4 MILLION DOL QUESTIONABLE PAYMENTS TO KOREAN BUSINESSMAN JONG NAK KIM, BROTHER EX-PREMIER JONG PIL KIM, ON 15 MILLION DOL SHIPBUILDING CONTRACT. HIRC TRYING LEARN IF PAYMENTS RETAINED IN KOREA OR "RECYCLED" TO US AS BRIBES TO POL FIGURES.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

7. JAPAN

HARVARD'S COHEN (CSM) NOTES FUKUDA HAS HANDS FULL IN COPING W/JAPAN'S PROBLEMS, INCL HUGE TRADE SURPLUS, RAMIFICATIONS OTHER NATIONS' 200-MILE FISHING ZONE, JAPAN'S VULNERABILITY TO OPEC DEMANDS. ALSO CITES SECURITY CONCERNS, ESPECIALLY CARTER'S PROPOSAL REMOVE US TROOPS KOREA, EXPECTED FULL RELS W/PRC. STATES JAPAN-SK RELS IN QUESTION, AS MANY FU-

KUDA SUPPORTERS CONCERNED THAT CURRENT INVESTIGATIONS
KOREA LOBBY IN US WILL "SPILL OVER" INTO JAPAN, REVEALING
"UNATTRACTIVE NETWORK" CORRUPT POL/BUSINESS TIES BETW
TOKYO-SEOUL. COHEN CONCLUDES "FUKUDA'S REIGN MAY BE SHORT
BUT NOT SWEET."

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FORMER US AMB REISCHAUER (LAT 1/16) REAPPRAISES JAPAN'S
DEMOCRACY AFTER TUMULTUOUS YEAR. ANALYZES ELECTION RE-
SULTS, URBAN/ECON PROBLEMS, EFFECT LOCKHEED SCANDAL.
BELIEVES JAPAN WILL CONTINUE ON STABLE, "REASONABLY EFFI-
CIENT" COURSE, THOUGH NARROW ECON BASE PUTS JAPAN IN "MORE
HAZARDOUS POSITION" THAN MOST OTHER NATIONS. CONCLUDES
JAPANESE DEMOCRACY AS OF EARLY '77 SHOULD BE RATED "AS
BEING IN SOUND HEALTH."

8. JAPAN/KOREA

UPI'S CRABBE STATES CARTER'S PLAN WITHDRAW US TROOPS KOREA
"RUBBED RAW" ONE OF SOREST SPOTS IN JAPANESE POLITICS.
NOTES SK ONLY NON-COMMUNIST NATION ON MAINLAND N ASIA, AND
JAPAN HAS POURED BILLIONS INTO IT SINCE '65 VIA GOVT AID/
PVT INVESTMENT CAPITAL. CONTINUES JAPAN'S CONSERV RULERS,
IN "WORST DREAMS," SEE SK GOING WAY OF SVN IF US TROOPS
LEAVE, HAVE NO DESIRE FACE UNITED KOREA RULED BY KIM IL
SUNG. QUOTES HIGH JAPANESE DIPL SOURCE THAT THERE WILL BE
NO IMPROVEMENT IN JAPAN-NK RELS AT SACRIFICE SK. SAYS LIB-
ERALS RESENTED PARK'S SHUTDOWN SK DEMOCRACY, WHILE BRIBERY
SCANDAL INVOLVING US CONGRESS "ADDED FUEL" TO FLAMES.
JAPANESE NOW FEEL AMER PUBLIC "'TURNED OFF' ON ASIA,; US
COMMITMENT TO SK CAN NO LONGER BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED. ADDS
US-JAPAN FOPOL GOAL IS DIVIDED KOREA, INCL USSR/PRC RECOG-
NITION SK IN RETURN FOR US/JAPAN NORMALIZING RELS W/NK.
CONCLUDES THAT WHILE PEKING/MOSCOW DON'T DESIRE ANOTHER WAR
OVER KOREA, ANY TIME SK LOOKS VULNERABLE, "BOTH MAY COME
RUSHING" HELP NK.

9. INDOCHINA

RULE BY CMTE WAY OF LIFE LESS THAN 2 YRS AFTER NVN VICTORY;
ENCOURAGING TO VN'S NEIGHBORS SINCE THEORETICALLY DIS-
COURAGES ADVENTURISM/SPUR-OF-MOMENT DECISIONS (UPI BANKOK).
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READER CARLSON WRITES TO NYT RE LTR SENT BY FORMER
PACIFISTS/ANTIWAR PROTESTERS TO "PREDICTABLY UNRESPONSIVE"
VN OBSERVER AT UN; SAYS HER LIFE BRIGHTENED BY SIGNERS
"TUMBLER FROM THEIR PRETTY PINK CLOUD." AFSC'S
MCAULIFF ALSO WRITES TO NYT TO GIVE REASONS WHY HE DIDN'T
SIGN LTR: SAYS CHARGES MADE W/O SUFFICIENT BASIS FACT,
PERSONAL EXPERIENCES QUAKERS/MENNONITES/DICK HUGHES DO
NOT SUSTAIN ALLEGATIONS. DEPLORES "EVIL" US HAS DONE,
ADVOCATES NORMALIZED RELS W/INDOCHINA/RECONSTRUCTION
AID.

10. MALAYSIA/THAILAND

REUTER'S CALVERT FROM IPOH, MALAYSIA DESCRIBES 1ST JOINT-
OPN BETW RTG/GOM VS COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS. SEES MIL OPNS

IN BORDER AREA TAKING ON NEW DIMENSION, W/ AIM TO CATCH
GUERRILLAS IN PINCHER MOVEMENT/THREATEN HOME GROUND.

11. HONG KONG

LO BELLO (GLOBE) DESCRIBES ROLE GURKHA SOLDIERS IN
COLONY; RECALLS HISTORY THEIR ASSOCIATION W/UK; TELLS OF
VISIT TO CAMP IN NEW TERRITORIES.

12. CHINA

MUNRO (CSM) REPORTS SECURITY FORCES REMOVE POSTERS FROM
PEKING, BELIEVES MAY BE PRELUDE TO TENG'S RETURN. MEN-
TIONS DELAY IN TENG'S REAPPEARANCE MAY BE DUE HUA'S
DELIBERATE/SLOW STYLE. GIVES BACKGROUND TENG CASE/POSTER
CAMPAIGN.

LESLIE (LAT 1/15) SEES PRC REFERRAL TO POSSIBLE NEGOTIA-
TION W/US ON TAIWAN ISSUE AS "WHAT APPEARS TO BE" WEL-
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COMING GESTURE TO INCOMING CARTER ADMIN. THINKS "PEKING
PEOPLE'S DAILY" ARTICLE SUGGESTS CHINA WANTS ENCOURAGE
US ESTABLISH DIPL RELS.

HARSCH (CSM) BELIEVES TENG'S RETURN WOULD DEFINITELY MEAN
DOWNFALL "GANG OF FOUR." OPINES MAY ALSO MEAN BEGINNING
NEW PHASE IN PRC HISTORY, MARKED BY MUCH LESS UNCERTAINTY
THAN IN MAO'S CHINA. SAYS HUA/TENG PROBABLY FOLLOW
CHOU'S DESIRE MAKE CHINA PROSPEROUS/MODERN COUNTRY.
CONCLUDES IF CHINA HAS 10/20 YRS W/O MORE GREAT LEAPS/
RED GUARDS/CULTURAL REVS, COULD GO LONG WAY AHEAD.

13. GENERAL

LAT'S MCARTHUR (1/16) NOTES NON-COMMUNIST SEA NATIONS
STRENGTHENING MIL FORCES IN WAKE SVN DEFEAT, HAVE BECOME
BILLION-DOL ARMS MKT. SEES BREAK FOR US TAXPAYER SINCE
IN PAST MOST COUNTRIES THERE GOT US MIL AID, BUT NOW ARE
BUYING OWN WEAPONS. MENTIONS PHILS, HAGGLING OVER BASE
TREATY, WILL PROBABLY GET ARMS AID, BUT THAILAND/MALAYSIA/
SINGAPORE/INDONESIA WILL BE LARGLY BUYING W/CASH. REVIEWS
MIL ESTABLISHMENTS/ARMS PURCHASES THESE COUNTRIES.
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